IN THE CLAIMS:

Please replace claims 3, 5-7, 9-11, 15, 17-19, 21, and 23-24 with the following amended claims:

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3. (Amended) A formulation as claimed in Claim 1 wherein said gelling agent is alginate, carboxymethylcellulose, collagen, a polysaccharide, agar, a polyethylene oxide, a glycol methacrylate, gelatin, a gum, or salts or derivatives of any of these, or mixtures thereof.

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- 5. (Amended) A formulation as claimed in Claim 1, wherein said gelling agent has a molecular weight of from 10,000 to 200,000 kDa.
- 6. (Amended) A formulation as claimed in Claim 1, wherein said precipitant is a salt of calcium, zinc, cooper, silver or aluminium; borates; glyoxal; or amino-formaldehyde pre-condensates.
- 7. (Amended) A formulation as claimed in Claim 1 further containing a foaming agent.

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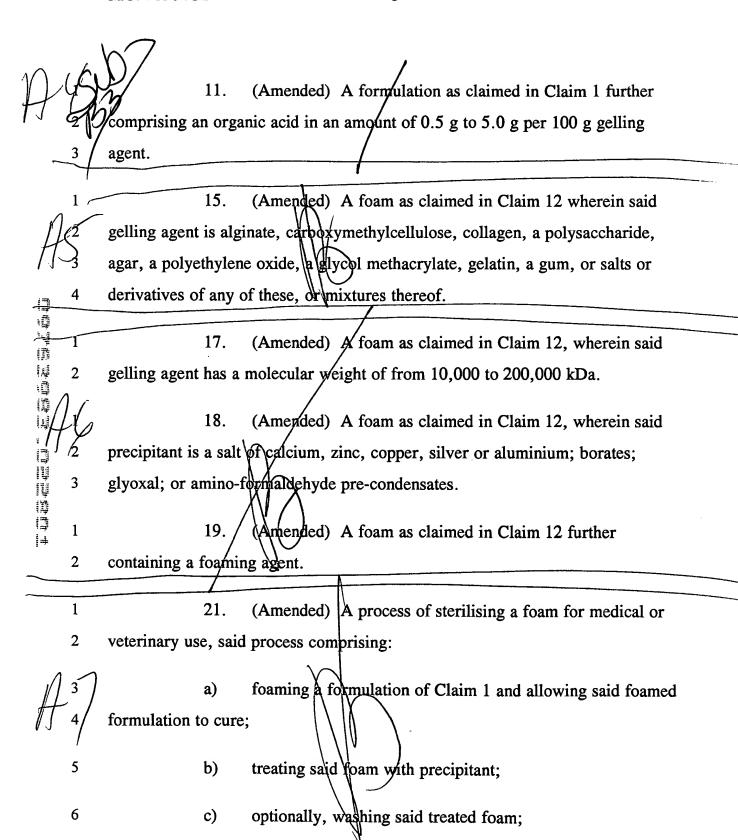
9. (Amended) A formulation as claimed in Claim 1 wherein the gelling agent comprises an alginate gel, a carageenan gel or a carboxymethylcellulose gell and wherein the precipitant is a calcium salt.

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10. (Amended) A formulation as claimed in Claim 1 wherein the gelling agent comprises carboxymethylcellulose gel and wherein the precipitant is an aluminium salt.



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d) drying said treated foam; and

sterilising said dried foam by exposure to γ - irradiation or

9 ethylene oxide.

23. (Amended) The process of Claim 21 wherein the treated foam is oven dried at temperatures below 100°C.

24. (Amended) The process of Claim 21 wherein the foam is immersed in a bath of calcium/chloride or calcium citrate solution as precipitant.

Respectfully submitted,

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Kristen Foley